

21 August 2024

Update: Mill Flat Road Bridge Replacement Project

Kia ora neighbour,

Thank you to those who attended our community event in May 2024 or contributed via the Coatesville Transport Forum. We have made great progress on the bridge replacement, with the design now complete and construction preparations underway. Please find below an update for you and some key information we have to hand regarding the construction phase of work.

Progress

Over the last few months since our last update letter (in April 2024), we have progressed with the following:

- A community drop in session held on 1 May 2024. While no specific feedback was sought, we were able to hear from residents:
 - The Mill Flat Road community are generally supportive of a two lane replacement bridge with a pedestrian path;
 - The community are also supportive of the proposed intersection improvements given their concerns with the current intersection;
 - While some concern was initially expressed for a bridge located to the north of the existing bailey bridge, the move is only slightly move north and the intersection improvements and new signage have generally addressed these concerns;
 - While AT and Ministry of Education have confirmed that there are no formal bus routes that make use of the existing bus shelter at the corner of Mill Flat Road and Coatesville-Riverhead Highway, the project will retain the shelter in a similar location and will be connected to the bridge's footpath. This location will not alter the movement of any school buses that do occasionally pick up students from here; and
 - AT has confirmed that it, along with a contractor when on board, will liaise directly with the community in relation to managing construction effects such as night works and travel delays/restrictions.
- Resource consent for the removal of 5 tree/tree groups (two mature trees and three shrub/weed type groups), was lodged in May 2024.
- Detailed design has now been completed as at July 2024. A summary of the design is attached.
- A physical works tender was released on 25 July 2024 to a panel of contractors who have experience in bridge construction and it is expected the successful Contractor will be onboard in October.



Construction impact or disruptions

Our previous communication noted that stop/go or similar traffic management will be needed on Mill Flat Road and Coatesville-Riverhead Highway. In addition, some short-term road closures of Mill Flat Road will be required for the bridge construction works. These closures are expected to be limited to night works in order to minimise the disruption to the community and road users.

It has been confirmed that construction of the new bridge will be undertaken in two stages to keep access available for residents.

- **Stage 1:** the first half of the new bridge (around 4.5m wide) will be built slightly to the north of the current bailey bridge, which will remain open to traffic as it is now.
- **Stage 2:** Traffic will be moved onto the newly completed Stage 1 of the bridge. The bailey bridge will then be removed and the second half of the new bridge (around 3.2m wide) will be built in this location.

Access for larger vehicles

During Stage 2 of the bridge construction, some larger vehicles will not be able to travel across the newly constructed half of the bridge due to the curves on the approach to the bridge and the narrowness of the available road width on the partially completed bridge.

Based on tracking modelling for various vehicle types, the following vehicles will not be able to make the turns:

- Any trucks longer than 10.3m.
- Truck and trailer units. (However, a car with a trailer, including caravans, will be ok).

Stage 2 of the bridge construction is anticipated to take approximately 4 months to complete and is currently programmed for mid-2025 (depending on when construction actually starts). During this time, the businesses along Mill Flat Road that operate trucks larger than 10.3m and/or truck and trailer units will need to make alternative arrangements for parking outside the area and/or using smaller vehicles.

The restriction will only apply during construction (more specifically, Stage 2). Once the construction is complete, this restriction will be lifted, with all road legal vehicles able to use the final completed bridge.

We invite owners of affected vehicles operating on Mill Flat Road to get in touch with us if we haven't already connected.

Next steps

1. Award contract for physical work to the successful tenderer by October 2024.
2. Construction starts - late 2024, taking approximately 12 – 14 months.



Keep in touch

If you haven't already, please join our WhatsApp Group, specifically set up for Mill Flat Road residents only in relation to the bridge replacement work, using the QR link to the right:



More information and to contact us

Further detail, including a memorandum provided to the Local Board in July 2024, is available on our website. Visit www.at.govt.nz/roadrepairs and search for Mill Flat Road Bridge under the "North Rural Auckland Recovery Progress" icon.

Or

You can scan this QR code using your smartphone to find the webpage.



If you have any queries about this project, please contact us via ATEngagement@at.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi,

Auckland Transport



Summary of Design

What is planned

Mill Flat Road Bridge

The new bridge design includes:

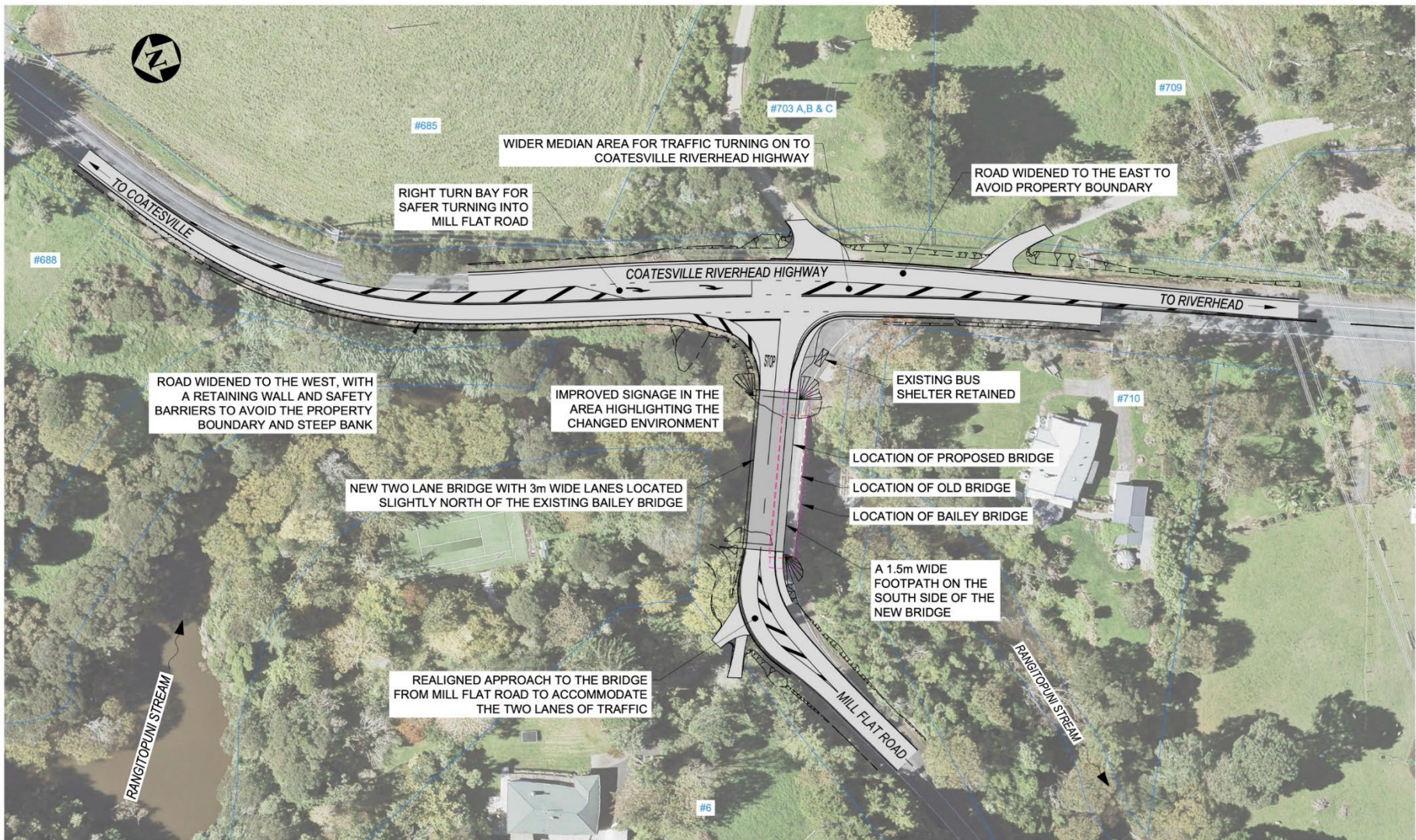
- A two lane replacement bridge with 3m wide general traffic lanes.
- A single 1.5m wide footpath on the southern (downstream) side of the bridge.
- A slightly widened approach to the bridge on Mill Flat Road.
- No vehicle class or weight restrictions.
- Moving location slightly upstream of the current bridge, to enable continued community access throughout the construction of the new bridge.
- The new bridge will be constructed in two halves, with traffic using the temporary bailey bridge during the first half build. Traffic will then use the new first half bridge while the temporary bailey bridge is removed and the second half of the new bridge is constructed.
- Future proofing where although the new bridge might be flooded in extreme weather events (1 in 25 year events and worse) the structure will be robust to withstand such events. Minor damage to the pedestrian handrails in extreme events is anticipated.

Intersection Improvements - Mill Flat Road / Coatesville-Riverhead Highway

The current design includes:

- A right-turn bay on Coatesville-Riverhead Highway leading toward Mill Flat Road.
- Widening of the road in this area, including a retaining wall on the Rangitopuni Stream side, to accommodate the right-turn bay.
- Improved signage and intersection warnings either side of the intersection.

Please see the drawing on the next page which show the proposed bridge design and intersection design.



PLAN
1:750(A3)



REV	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	DESIGNED	CHECKED	APPROVED	DATE
B	FOR CONSULTATION	C. Mansell	N. Turniciff	P. Lipscombe	M. Barfoot	8/8/24
A	DRAFT	C. Mansell	N. Turniciff	P. Lipscombe	M. Barfoot	6/8/24

PROJECT	MILL FLAT ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS
TITLE	GENERAL LAYOUT

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	
NUMBER	24001-DRG-CM-101
STATUS	FOR CONSULTATION
SCALE	1:500(A1), 1:1000(A3)
REVISION	B